

New Jersey sports betting in governor's hands

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Bills that will legalize sports betting in New Jersey await approval



David Purdum
ESPN Staff Writer

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The future of sports betting in New Jersey is now in Gov. Phil Murphy's hands.

The New Jersey Assembly and Senate on Thursday unanimously passed bills that will legalize sports betting at the state's casinos and racetracks, pending approval by Murphy. The Assembly voted 73-0 in favor of the legislation, and the Senate followed with a 37-0 vote.

Murphy has 45 days to act on the bill.

"Governor Murphy looks forward to closely reviewing the sports betting legislation that was recently passed by the Legislature," Dan Bryan, press secretary for Murphy, said a statement. "The Governor has long been supportive of New Jersey's right to allow sports betting and he wants to ensure that the proposed regulatory scheme is fair and reasonable."

EDITOR'S PICKS

[Inside the sports betting bill negotiations](#)

New Jersey is the latest state to pass a bill legalizing sports betting, but the pro sports leagues didn't get what they wanted in the Garden State. Here are the issues being hotly debated in state legislatures between the leagues and gaming interests.



[Full coverage of sports betting legalization](#)

Here is ESPN Chalk's one-stop shop of all relevant content, following the Supreme Court's ruling in favor of New Jersey.



New Jersey racetrack Monmouth Park says it's ready to begin immediately if the governor signs the legislation. The Borgata in Atlantic City also has said it will begin taking wagers as soon as the regulations are put in place.

"We're excited that this happened," said Dennis Drazen, an official for Monmouth Park. "The long fight for all the years has finally reached a conclusion. The bill is on the way to the governor. We hope he signs it. This is a great victory for New Jersey, horse racing and the casinos."

New Jersey fought the NCAA, NFL, NBA, NHL and Major League Baseball in a six-year legal battle that began in 2012 and was accepted by the United States Supreme Court last June.

On May 14, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of New Jersey and declared that the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992, the federal ban on state-sponsored sports betting, was unconstitutional, opening a path for states to legalize sports wagering.

On Tuesday, Delaware became the first state outside of Nevada to offer full-scale legal sports betting. [More than \\$322,000 was bet](#) on sports in Delaware

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126d - ESPN Chalk staff
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- Roundtable: How will legalized sports betting impact the NHL?

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- With legal sports betting, how will NBA, MLB protect integrity of game?

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26d - Bob Pockrass
- Which countries allow gambling on sports? Assessing the impact of betting around the world

28d - ESPN Staff
- Does the SCOTUS sports betting ruling help in the legalization efforts of online poker?

28d - Tim Fiorvanti
- Will U.S. sport gambling follow path of soccer and cricket?

28d - Matt Scott
- FAQ: The basics of sports betting

29d - Brett Smiley
- How the U.S. gambling decision will affect esports

29d - Bryce Blum
- Spreads for Weeks 1-16

32d - Ben Fawkes
- Vegas makes Browns favorites in two of first 16 games in 2018


35d - Pat McManamon
- Could legalized sports betting boost horse racing?

42d - Kieran Darcy


Bills to legalize sports betting in New Jersey await approval from Gov. Phil Murphy

on Tuesday. New Jersey is expected to handle much more.

Research firm Eilers & Krejcik Gaming projects nearly \$7.75 billion will be wagered annually in New Jersey when the market matures and includes online and mobile wagering.



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